

Project Proposal

Proposal Title: Church Hills Harrow

Proposal Number: 1452

DWR Region: Southern Region

Lead Agency: DWR

County: Millard

Project Manager: Kendall Bagley

PM Phone: 4358656113

Regional Priority: Within Focus Area

Project Type: Terrestrial Habitat

Proposed Start Date: 8/15/2009

Project Location: This project is located north of Holden, Utah and west of I-15, in the Church Springs area.

Project Description: Harrow and seeding project to remove young encroaching PJ and decrease decadent sagebrush while improving grass and forb understory.

Description of Problem/Need: Pinyon and Juniper invasion into crucial deer winter range, along with increasing decadent sagebrush. This project will reduce the pinyon-juniper stand allowing for increased grass, forbs and browse species that will benefit wintering deer, while also improving the range conditions and allowing for increased cattle forage in the future. The project area consists of nearly 135 acres of big game winter range within the Oak Creek Deer Unit near Church Springs. This project is being proposed for fall of 2009 which will follow the work being completed by the Forest Service and BLM on adjacent lands through the efforts of a prescribed burning and skid-steer bull-hog projects.

Objectives: Increase habitat quality and quantity for wintering big game and livestock by increasing available winter browse species, and increasing grass and forbs through removal of Pinyon/Juniper encroachment. Supplemental seeding will speed vegetative response and help protect against exotic/invasive plants. Increasing forage for wildlife and livestock on private land will allow for improved tolerance of wildlife by private landowners in the area.

Relevance to Strategic Plans: Project targets winter habitat improvement for mule deer, identified as a Tier III species in the WAP. Also seek to improve shrubsteppe habitat, one of the key habitats identified in the WAP.

Potential Risks: Displacement of small mammals, and seeding failure due to drought.

Proposed Methods: This project will consist of using a Dixie or pipe harrow to remove encroaching pinyon-Juniper trees and also remove decadent sagebrush allowing for increased age class of sagebrush and improved vegetation of grasses and forbs. Along with this harrow project we will be broadcasting additional grasses and forbs behind the tractor and in front of the pipe harrow. Reseeding of these additional grasses and forbs will allow for improved response to the treatment and the increased composition of vegetation within the treatment area. Travel corridors will be kept in tack allowing for thermal and escape cover for wildlife in the area. Culture Resource issues should not be a concern as this project is to maintain an existing chaining. If information is needed Culture Resource concerns maybe addressed through the UDWR and NRCS personnel in the region along with assistance from State Archeologist.

Shapefile Name: S:/DWR/HPD-2010/GIS Shape Files/1452.shp

Seed Source: GBRC

UPCD Reg Team Coord Date:

Proposed NEPA Action:

Proposed Arch Action:

☐ **Vegetation Monitoring** ☒ **Wildlife Monitoring**

Monitoring Information: Monitoring plans will consist of UDWR bi-annual deer classification to monitor production and subsequent survival on area deer herds, along with the rotational system of livestock grazing through the private landowner's management system

Grazing Management: Area would be rested from grazing for 2 growing seasons and then placed on a system of rotational grazing thereafter.

SPECIES BENEFITING

Elk

Mule Deer

Project Proposal

LAND OWNERSHIP

Owner	Acres
Private	135
Total	135

PROPOSED FUNDING

Source	Amount Requested	Date Approved	Amount Approved
Unfunded Balance	\$6,750.00		\$0.00
Private	\$6,750.00		\$6,750.00
Totals	\$13,500.00		\$6,750.00

PROPOSED BUDGET

Item	Description	DWR Account	Partner Contrib.
Seed (GBRC)	Seed for 135 acres @ \$50/acre	\$6,750.00	\$0.00
Other	Tractor, operator, and fuel @ \$50/acre	\$0.00	\$6,750.00
	Totals	\$6,750.00	\$6,750.00

Project Map:

